

REMARKS

Claims 1–18 are pending in this application. By this amendment, claim 1–5 are amended. Non-elected claims 6–17 have been withdrawn from consideration. Support for the amendments to claim 1 may be found in the specification, for example, at page 14, lines 33–36. Support for the amendments to claims 2–5 may be found, for example, in original claims 2–5. No new matter is added.

The courtesies extended to Applicants' representative by Examiner Santiago at the interview held September 13 are appreciated. The reasons presented at the interview as warranting favorable action are incorporated into the remarks below and constitute Applicants' record of the interview.

I. Rejection Under 35 U.S.C §102

The Office Action rejects claims 1, 2, 4, 5, and 18 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,482,896 to Tang et al. ("Tang"). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

Claim 1, as amended, is directed to "[a] method of manufacturing a light emitting display panel comprising laminating at least a flexible base layer, a first electrode layer, an EL layer, a second electrode layer and a flexible sealing layer in order; wherein...the flexible base layer comprises a laminate of a thin glass sheet and a preformed protective plastic sheet, and has sufficient flexibility to be freely rolled and/or curved..." (emphasis added).

It is well settled that a claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference.

See MPEP §2131.

Although Tang discloses that "the glass surface can be further modified with a slipping layer such as a thin film of Teflon™" (see Tang at column 5, lines 59–61), Tang does not describe each and every element as set forth in claim 1. It would be understood by one

skilled in the art that the thin film of Teflon™ would be sprayed on the surface of the glass substrate disclosed by Tang. However, claim 1 requires that the flexible base layer comprises a laminate of a thin glass sheet and a preformed protective plastic sheet. Therefore, Tang does not disclose the same process as claim 1. For at least this reason, Tang cannot be said to anticipate claim 1.

Tang does not anticipate claim 1. Claims 2, 4, 5, and 18 depend from claim 1 and, thus, also are not anticipated by Tang. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

II. Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §103

The Office Action rejects claim 3 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Tang. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

As discussed above, Tang does not anticipate Claim 1. Regardless of its asserted disclosures, Tang does not teach or suggest the process limitations described above.

Claim 1 would not have been rendered obvious by Tang. Claim 3 depends from claim 1 and, thus, also would not have been rendered obvious by Tang. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

III. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1–5 and 18 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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